



The Way Forward

2008 Annual Report



North York
Women's Shelter



**Tough times have put
North York Women's
Shelter's services under
unprecedented strain, but
we rose to the challenge,
providing information,
safety and practical help
to save lives last year.**



Member Agency

»»» Foreword

North York Women's Shelter's service mandate is fuelled by compassion and the courage of women who seek our help in order to break free from a cycle of violence.

Our commitment to the work we do is motivated by the healing we see with the children and women. Because of our work, abused women have more options and their children have a renewed childhood. Most importantly we have saved lives; with this we can say with certainty our work has made a difference. We are not merely a band aid solution; we are place of healing, hope and opportunity.

2008 was a year of transformation that led to the revival of our shelter's spirit. We welcomed new staff members, a new management team and were ready serve the women and children who needed us the most. We educated our community about the severity of the issue of violence and established strong partnerships with like minded organizations committed to creating change and empowering women.

Input from users of programs and ideas from shelter staff have helped us keep our services dynamic and accessible. Our grassroots approach keeps us accountable to those who access our services and those that fund our work. We thank the Ministry of Community and Social Services and the United Way of Toronto for their commitment to eradicating Violence Against Women.

The healing that takes places at North York Women's Shelter would not be possible without the dedication of our volunteers, community partners, donors and staff. We thank each and every one of you for supporting the vital work of our shelter and allowing us to give women and children a better promise of tomorrow.



Charlene Catchpole
Executive Director



Catia Creatura-Amelio
Chair, Board of Directors





Administration

Charlene Catchpole, *Executive Director*

Shelina Akter, *Finance Manager*

Volta Eliabachus, *Executive Assistant*

Volunteer and Resource Development

Shamini Selvaratnam, *Resource Development Manager*

Cassandra Toussaint, *Fundraising and Volunteer Coordinator*

Shelter Services

Deborah Thompson, *Program Manager*

Amy Clements, *Women's Counsellor*

Angelica Lorca, *Women's Counsellor*

Sophy Osoro, *Women's Counsellor*

Tiffany Bond, *Women's Counsellor*

Leanna Tuba, *Children's Programmer*

Yvonne Annobil, *Children's Service Worker*

Marcia Francis, *Part-Time Counsellor*

Myra Santone, *Part-Time Counsellor*

Shyamali Pal, *Part-Time Counsellor*

Evelyn Skeete, *Relief Counsellor*

Anab Osman, *Relief Counsellor*

Christina Arokiadass, *Relief Counsellor*

Christina Crocitto, *Relief Counsellor*

Estela Agapay, *Relief Counsellor*

Jacqueline Cunningham, *Relief Counsellor*

Jeryl George, *Relief Counsellor*

Jules Koostachin, *Relief Counsellor*

Karen Brown, *Relief Counsellor*

Kim D'eath, *Relief Counsellor*

Madhu Bector, *Relief Counsellor*

Rosa Arrendono, *Relief Counsellor*

Maria Suarez, *Food Services Worker*

Idalmis Martinez, *Maintenance Worker*

»» Programs

North York Women's Shelter programs are created and offered with the hope that they provide the women with an awareness of self, opportunity for education, new skills, laughter, joy, hope and healing. Our programs focus on nurturing mind, body, and spirit. Each activity offered looks at how we can support and nurture the mind, body and spirit of the women and children we serve. We aspire to educate and provide opportunity for healing for each woman and child; and believe the activities offered are indicative of this philosophy.

2008 Program Highlight - Life Coaching with Robin HC

Robin H-C is a life coach, whose expertise is in helping others to shape their lives in the fashion that would help them to accomplish their desired goals in life. Having a life coach work with women in the shelter has helped to shape their lives and work through the trauma of the violence they have experienced.

Robin H-C facilitated group sessions for 4 hours per week for 7 weeks. This program helped women to learn how to think positively, how to transform their lives, live for what they want, and how to stay motivated. Women were encouraged to dream; dreaming meant the women who participated in this supportive environment, were free to desire a better life and value themselves. Women were able to change their thinking into positive thoughts. This motivated many to start working for what they wanted.

Some of the other programs that were offered to women and children are below:

In partnership with Microskills we offer assistance and provide women training for re-entering the workforce. "Talk Time on Tuesday" is a series of conversations led by the women on topics of interest. With help of Arts for Children, our dance program helps develop both artistic and personal skills of children.



»» Community Relations



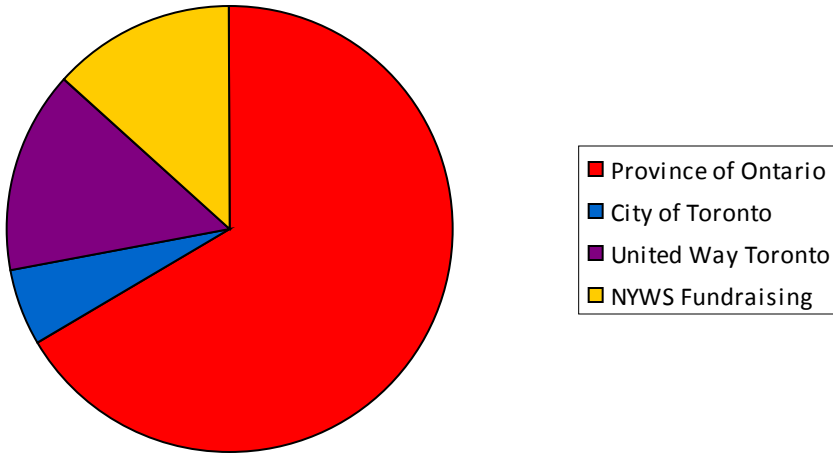
North York Women's Shelter had a very successful year in the community. Our goal is to raise awareness of the issues surrounding family violence, inform the community of NYWS' accomplishments, and develop mutually beneficial partnerships.

Our Girlz Gab lunch hour program for young women at William Lyon Mackenzie High School was highly successful again this year. The group, designed to empower young women by providing them with safe space to build their confidence and self-esteem is a popular lunch hour activity for many young women in the school. We believe by empowering young women at an early age, we can help prevent violence in the future.

Through a partnership with the Canadian Auto Workers union Local 673 we created the Summer of Hope campaign that raised money to send all of the children at the shelter to a one week summer camp at Center Island. Staff at XL Insurance gave much of their own time, along with monetary donations as part of the company's Global Day of Giving. The staff and students at the Toronto French School raised over \$3000 for the shelter at the school's annual Fashion Show. We also had the opportunity to have an information booth at the show and engage with parents and students about issues of family and domestic violence.

Aside from hosting events our staff actively attend community events and accept speaking engagements to proactively educate our community about the severity of violence. Our hope is to educate and build lasting partnerships to ensure the safety of women and children.

»» Funding Sources

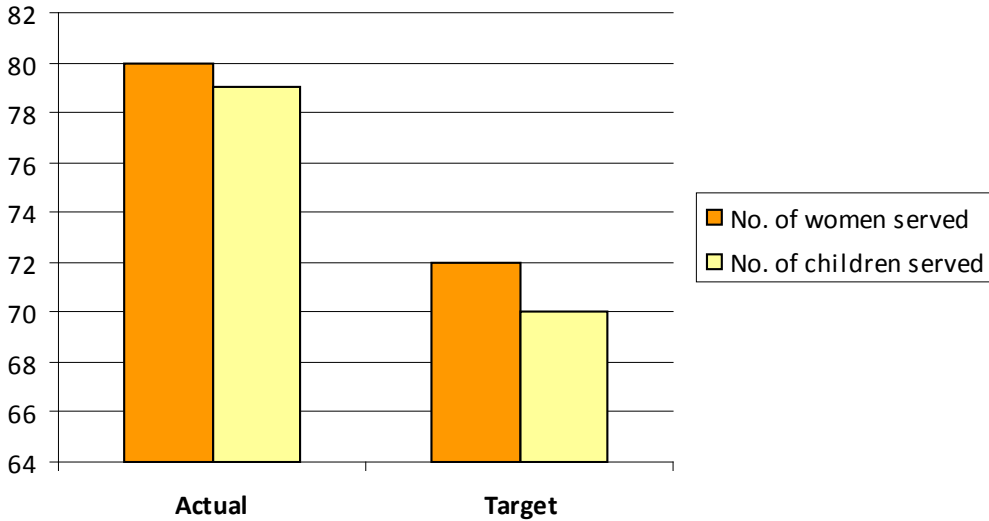


We held many events to increase awareness about the issue of violence against women and to raise funds to support the shelter's vital services. Our 3rd annual Mother's Day Hope Gala Dinner and Auction was held on May 8th at the Vaughan Estate, located at the Estates of Sunnybrook. The Gala honoured celebrated film maker Deepa Mehta who inspired the guests and our host Pauline Chan, from CTV Toronto, was outstanding. We also held a special screening of Ms. Mehta's latest film Heaven on Earth, about an immigrant women suffering abuse, to commemorate the International Day of Elimination of Violence against Women and December 6th.

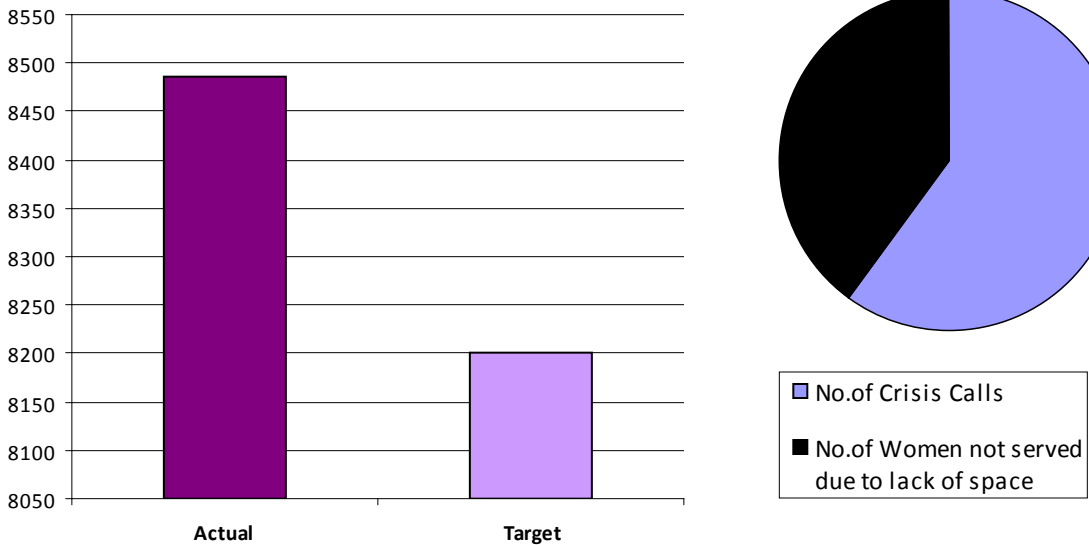


»» Our Impact - Service Statistics

No. of clients served



Total hours of client service



Statement of Operations

For the Year Ended in December 31, 2008

Revenues (Note 1)		
	2008	2007
Capital grant	\$33,298.00	\$88,567.00
Operations grants (government)	\$1,179,224.00	\$979,109.00
Foundation grants	\$29,615.00	\$31,304.00
Donations and corporate grants	\$385,927.00	\$379,248.00
Fees for service	\$2,200.00	\$4,785.00
Special events – Hope Gala	\$10,029.00	\$5,974.00
Investment income	\$21,276.00	\$16,627.00
	\$1,661,569.00	\$1,505,614.00
Expenses		
Property	\$164,720.00	\$173,828.00
Administration	\$104,244.00	\$122,959.00
Staffing	\$947,703.00	\$813,080.00
Grant expenses	\$19,623.00	\$55,805.00
Residents	\$44,748.00	\$39,381.00
Supplies	\$55,978.00	\$41,379.00
	\$1,337,016.00	\$1,246,432.00
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$324,553.00	\$259,182.00
Net assets – opening	\$762,869.00	\$488,822.00
Prior period correction (Note 2)	-	\$14,865.00
Net assets – closing	\$1,087,422.00	\$762,869.00

Note 1. Economic Dependence

The amount of revenue received by the Shelter from The Ministry of Community and Social Services of Ontario is so significant that the viability of the Shelter is economically dependent on the Ministry. Significant contributions are also allocated from the United Way (\$188,750 in 2008, \$194,231 in 2007).

Note 2. Correction of Error

During the preparation of the 2007 financial statements, the Shelter determined that the carrying values of capital assets were understated due to the application of incorrect amortization rates. An increase of \$14,865 was made to unrestricted net assets opening on the comparative figures to correct the cumulative error prior to 2007. Additionally, a reduction was made to the 2007 amortization in the amount of \$23,240.



»» Hope Givers

Foundations

BMO Employee Charitable Foundation
CAW Social Justice Fund
Borden Ladner Gervais Foundation
Canadian Women's Foundation
Derick Brenninkmeyer Charitable Foundation
Mackenzie Charitable Giving Fund
Ontario Power Generation Employees Foundation
Paloma Foundation
PriceWaterHouse Coopers Canada Foundation
Rainbow Foundation
REALTORS Care Foundation
Royal LePage Partners Reality Trust
Toronto Hydro Employees Charity Trust
Toronto Toy Tea Foundation

Corporations

Borden Ladner Gervais
Bright guy Consulting
Dispute Resolution Services
Haggar Canada Co.
HBC
IBM
IKEA
Sanofi-Pasteur
Scale Models Plus Inc.
Telus Communications
The Tymar Consulting Group
Warner Brothers Entertainment
Canada
Wiklem Designs Inc.

Community Organizations & Individuals

CAW Local 112
CAW Top Local 673
Eglinton St. George's United Church
Humber College
Lansing United Church
Northminster United Church UCW
OPSEU Local 518
OPSEU Ontario
Seneca College of Applied Arts and Technology
St. Matthew The Apostle-Oriole Anglican Church
The Sisterhood of St. John The Divine
Toronto French School
Toronto North Dental Hygienist Society
Willowdale Christian Reformed Church

Susan Callan
Penny Camenzuli
Marion Carruthers
Philip and Raya Cole
Dianne Domelle
Steven Green
Tracy F. Heffernan
Virginia Holmes
Kristian & Margaret Isberg
Herman & Josee Jansen
Hon. Margaret McCain
Donna McPhail
Domanica Molica
Alex Smith
Henry Solow
Ann Southam
Shirley Taylor



Board of Directors

Catia Creatura-Amelio

Barbara Elliott

Colleen Shannon

Martha Ocampo

Nur Muhammed-Ally

Audra Maharaj

Hala Beisha

Nora Kelly¹

Janet Madhosingh²

Sonia Kim³

¹Resigned in January 2008

²Resigned in April 2008

³Resigned in November 2008



Everyone should live a life free of violence.

Family violence robs women and children of security, health, and a fair chance in life.

North York Women's Shelter saves more than 800 lives each year. We provide safety, offer support, help women get back on their feet, and assist with securing housing.

We also tackle the root causes of violence by campaigning for new laws, policies, and solutions.

**We need your help to continue our work.
Please support us.**

P.O. 77570
Toronto, ON M3H 6A7

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Crisis Line: (416) 635.9630
www.nyws.ca

Charitable Registration No.
12981 9512 RR0001



**North York
Women's Shelter**
